

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL LUANDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 056459

FOLLOWING REPEAT PEKING 410 ACTION STATE INFO KINSHASA HONG KONG MAR

11

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 410

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CG, CF, PFOR, AO, PO, OAU

SUBJECT: THE PRC AND CABINDA

REF: KINSHASA 1953

1. THE CHINESE MAY HAVE HEARD A GREAT DEAL ABOUT CABINDA
IN RECENT MONTHS FROM ZAIRIAN PRESIDENT MOBUTU AND CONGOLESE
PRIMIN LOPES. REFTTEL SUGGESTS THAT THIS WAS VERY MUCH ON LOPES
MIND DURING HIS JUST COMPLETED VISIT AND GHANAIAAN EMBOFF TELLS US
THAT MOBUTU MADE CONSIDERABLE EFFORT TO GET CHINESE TO SUPPORT HIS
POSITION DURING DECEMBER VISIT.

2. ACCORDING TO GHANAIAANS, CHINESE WERE NOT INTERESTED IN BEING
ENSNARLED IN THE CABINDA DISPUTE. THEY TURNED DOWN MOBUTU'S REQUEST
FOR MILITARY ADVISORS AND INSTRUCTORS FOR CABINDANS IN ZAIRE AND ALSO
REFUSED TO SEND GUERRILLA WARFARE INSTRUCTORS FOR ZAIRE'S REGULAR
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FORCES BECAUSE THEY BELIEVED (RIGHTLY ACCORDING TO GHANAIAANS) THAT

MOBUTU INTENDED TO PUT CABINDANS THROUGH THE COURSE. CHINESE REPORTEDLY DID OFFER TO TRAIN ZAIRIAN TROOPS IN CHINA SO LONG AS CABINDANS WERE NOT INCLUDED.

3. THE SAME SOURCE SAID THAT MOBUTU FARED BETTER IN PYONGYANG. THE NORTH KOREANS ARE SAID TO HAVE AGREED TO SEND INSTRUCTORS TO TRAIN ZAIRIAN FORCES, NOT CABINDANS, BUT PRESUMABLY MOBUTU INTENDS TO MIX IN CABINDANS.

4. COMMENT: CHINESE UNWILLINGNESS TO GET INVOLVED IN CABINDAL ISSUE PRESUMABLY REFLECTS THEIR ASSESSMENT THAT SUPPORTING MOBUTU ON THIS ONE IS NOT WORTH OFFENDING A FUTURE ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT.
BUSH UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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